

## Message Text

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43

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 /043 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/GRK:LRGEORGE

X2304L 7/25/73

APPROVED BY NEA/GRK:GTCHURCHILL

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R 251550Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS STATE 145817

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:PINT, PFOR, US, GR

SUBJ:NEWSWEEK ARTICLE ON GOG

1. SUMMARY OF JULY 30 NEWSWEEK ARTICLE ENTITLED "PAPADOCRACY"  
FOLLOWS:

2. INTENSITY OF GOG PROPAGANDA FOR "YES" VOTE ON JULY 29  
SUGGESTS PAPADOPOULOS IS WORRIED ABOUT REFERENDUM OUTCOME,  
BUT RESULTS ARE ACTUALLY FOREGONE CONCLUSION. IF GREEKS  
VOTE "NO", SECOND REFERENDUM WILL BE SCHEDULED BUT GROWING  
DOMESTIC DISSENT, SLUMP IN ECONOMY, EROSION OF SUPPORT OF  
MILITARY REQUIRE "BOOST" OF FIRST ROUND VICTORY..

3. GOG PROPAGANDA HAS TAKEN FORMS: "YES" VOTE ALLEGEDLY  
WILL BRING END TO MARTIAL LAW AND RESTORATION OF CIVIL  
LIBERTIES; "NO" VOTE WOULD BLOCK LEADERS TO DEMOCRACY.

ELECTORAL PROCESS HAS BEEN RIGGED "IN SUCH HEAVY-HANDED  
MANNER THAT EVEN AMBASSADOR HENRY J. TASCA -- USUALLY A  
FIRM SUPPORTER OF THE COLONELS -- FELT COMPELLED TO CALL ON  
PAPADOPOULOS LAST WEEK AND, ACCORDING TO EMBASSY INSIDERS,  
MAKE WASHINGTON'S DISPLEASURE KNOWN IN A "VERY FRANK  
DISCUSSION".

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4. OPPOSITION ACTIVITY, DESPITE PROHIBITION OF FORMAL CAMPAIGNING HAS INCLUDED: PUBLISHED STATEMENT BY 200 FORMER LEGISLATORS URGING "NO" VOTE, STAMATELOPOULOS CANDIDACY FOR PRESIDENT, AND KARAMANLIS CALL FOR "NO" VOTE.

5. WHILE FREE VOTE WOULD PROBABLY RESULT IN "OVERWHELMING VOTE AGAINST THE REPUBLIC", SUCH SETBACK FOR PAPADOPOULOS IS UNLIKELY, BUT WHETHER HE WILL SERVE OUT EIGHT-YEAR TERM IS NOT CERTAIN. "SOME US OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT REFERENDUM MAY HAVE HASTENED DAY OF RECKONING FOR JUNTA BY FUELING POPULAR DISSENT AND INCREASING POSSIBILITY OF ANTI-GOVERNMENT VIOLENCE." ARTICLE QUOTES "AN AMERICAN OFFICIAL" AS SAYING PRIVATELY OF REFERENDUM, "IT IS A CHARADE, AND THE INTELLIGENT GREEK IS OFFENDED BY IT."

6. FULL TEXT FORWARDED BY POUCH. ROGERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PFOR  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** willialc  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18-Jan-2002 by phillir0>; APPROVED <25-Jan-2002 by willialc>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PINT, US, GR  
**To:** ATHENS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005